

the hoofprint

Buffalo
High
School
Buffalo MN

ISSUE 1
OCTOBER
2013

At the start of
a new year, we
are connected
through the
goals we share

On a
MISSION



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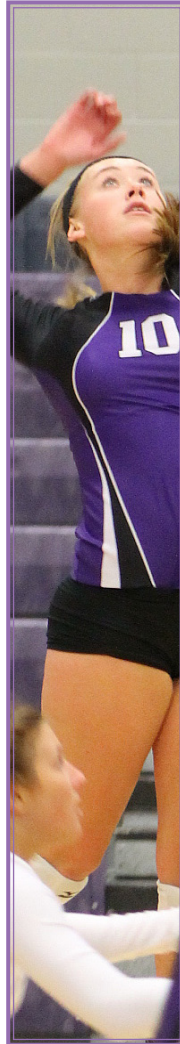
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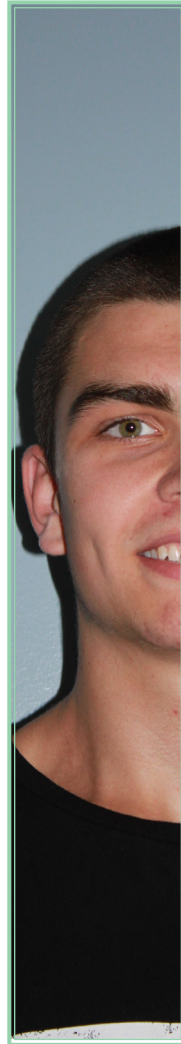
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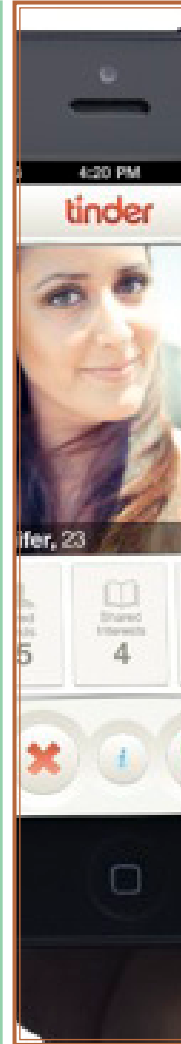
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The Hoofprint

Volume 43 Issue 1

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Our Mission As The HOOFPRIENT

The people featured in this issue of the Hoofprint are everyday superheroes. Even though they don't wear capes or have super powers, they have a huge impact on our school. They make it their mission to inspire others and make our school the best that it can be.

Take band director **Scott Rabehl** for example. He helps every single marching band student reach their full potential and he never gives up on them. Or how about Senior **Kylee Zumach**? Hard work and determination were her keys to success. Now she has a full ride scholarship to play volleyball at Kansas State University. She's a beacon of inspiration for those of us with big dreams.

There are many superheroes that walk the halls here at BHS. By joining clubs, sports, or simply chasing your dreams; any student can become a superhero. If you have any special skills then join clubs or groups that can showcase your talent. This will enable the entire school to take part in your greatness. You won't be restricted to a small audience.

When students join the Hoofprint, we make it our mission to allow those students to excel in journalism. It then become their mission, as part of the Hoofprint, to recognize the superheroes we are surrounded by. They also learn to support other students in reaching their goals. We want every member of BHS to feel connected through the goals that we make. We strive to be authoritative, aggressive, essential, caring, and creative as a leading source of news and information for the students and staff of Buffalo High School. After reading this issue of The Hoofprint, we hope that you make it your mission to follow what you're passionate about. Don't be afraid to let the world see what you're capable of.



Photo by Sarah Lehtola

GIVING FEEDBACK

New end-of-semester surveys will give all students a chance to evaluate their classes

Erica Hoops
Opinions Editor

Every year in the spring, students are encouraged to take the Climate Survey to help administrators determine what changes, if any, would benefit the school, and also to gauge how students feel at BHS.

This year, while the Spring Survey will still be given, teachers will be required to give each of their students a chance to give feedback regarding anything from the classroom environment to quality of teaching methods.

"Instead of just getting end-of-the-year data, why not do a formative assessment in the classroom setting and ask questions after each class," said Principal Mark Mischke, "this way teachers can get feedback on their individual classes. Some of the questions will be the same as the ones on the end of the year survey, some will be departmental, and some will be individual."

After the surveys are collected teachers will then, according to Mischke, have a chance to look at the results and decide what to do with it for themselves.

"This isn't going to be Big Brother," said Mischke, "We're just going to get data. So the English department

[for example] will give surveys in class and then on grading days they'll meet and look at the data for themselves. The only person who sees the [full] survey is the teacher. They get to keep the actual surveys to themselves."

While student surveys in the past have shown that most students at Buffalo feel very positively about the environment they are in, Mischke seems to think there is always room to improve.

Students and teachers alike seem open to the idea, but there are also those who have reservations.

"I do think there will be teachers who take what students have to say and use it," said Senior Katelyn Miller, "but there are some teachers who won't."

While some teachers may not use the information they gather, at least one will.

"[The surveys] are really going to depend on students and how they choose to use this opportunity," said band director Scott Rabehl. "Some students might go 'That teacher gave me a 'C' one time,' and then put ones down the column."

Though completely willing to give surveys and use the data gathered, Rabehl hopes they won't affect his classroom too much during the course of the year.

"I do the best job I can possibly do as a teacher," said Rabehl. "I try to meet the expectations that students, and parents, and administrators have for me, as well as the standards I set for myself as a teacher and musician. I do my best, so ideally the information I get from the survey won't have to affect my class at all."

While the administration hopes other teachers will be willing to use the information they gather, as Rabehl is, in the end, it will lie in the hands of individual teachers to utilize student comments.

"I think it's a good idea," said Senior Marissa Meyers. "We are the ones learning, so we should have some say."

Skeptical or not, students will have a more active role in their classrooms this year.

Some students might go, 'That teacher gave me a 'C' one time,' and then put ones down the column."

-Band Director Scott Rabehl

A NEW KIND OF HERD

New teachers are flocking to BHS, but one has walked these halls before



Photo by Maddy Personius

Carson Reichardt
Staff Writer

The teaching staff is undergoing a drastic change for the 2013-2014 school year. Over 10 percent of the staff are new employees, although not all of them are new to the school. Such is the case with English Teacher **Nathaniel Doimer**, a new addition to the staff who attended BHS as one of the students he now teaches.

"I actually had the fortune to attend Buffalo High School as a student," said Doimer. "I graduated in 2008, so I know the school well. Along with that, I love the culture here. It is such a positive, respectful place for students to learn."

Doimer graduated from college in May, and this is his first teaching job.

"Many things have impressed me about BHS," said Doimer. "The teachers and administration are super helpful and supportive, and the students are second to none. My experience has

been positive, and it has been fun to reconnect with many of my former teachers."

Though there are many things that describe him, the term "man on a mission" seems especially relevant. Doimer wanted to be a teacher because he loves the energy and fresh ideas that are brought to the classroom everyday.

"You can't get that in other occupations," said Doimer. "As far as goals and missions for the school year, my main goal is to continue to improve professionally to better serve the students of BHS."

Due to the short time span between his departure from BHS and his return, some of Doimer's former teachers are now his coworkers. He said this has been a positive experience.

"It has been amazing," he said. "They have been great mentors. The transition from seeing me as a student to seeing me as a colleague was something that

I thought would be kind of interesting, but it's been great. They've been great support for me."

Like any student, Doimer had a few favorite teachers. He has also been able to work alongside some of them.

"Mr. McCallum was one of my favorites. He kind of pointed me in the English direction in my post-high school schooling."

Like every instructor, Doimer has his own philosophy on teaching.

"I think that, first of all, every student in my classroom and in this school deserves a chance to learn and to grow," he said. "They can learn from each other, where I am there to point them in a direction, be a facilitator, allow them to learn from each other and grow and build on their own knowledge. That's my goal as a teacher. To be in that role, be that facilitator. Just point them in a direction, keep them on track, but allow them to learn from each other."

Herd Wanted:

The Herd's no-audition policy puts the emphasis on teamwork



Members of The Herd participate in the Montrose Days Parade

Photos by Danielle Odeen

No experience required

Blaze Solberg
Staff Writer

A Marching Band is often imagined to be an intense program with strict rules and elite musicians marching lockstep. Weaker musicians are left behind as the marchers prepare year-round. The Herd shatters those preconceptions. Their motto is unlike any other; it's about working together and accepting everyone. Teamwork is necessary for success.

Scott Rabehl directs the marching band, his style of teaching is to accept every student that wants to be in marching band. The advantages for that is the group is larger. Although performers do have to work and put in effort for a spot, he lets everyone have an opportunity.

Some people cut their experience short in the week called "Sweat Camp." This camp is over the span of a week, where students practice marching routines in the Summer heat, up to a total of eight hours a day.

Rabehl has coached several places in the Minnesota area, including Anoka, Blaine, and Coon Rapids. His most successful marching band would be "The Herd" at Buffalo.

If a student isn't able to perform up to the highest standards, they perform anyway. The group commits to helping

each member perform at their best. There are no cuts. Drum Major's and section leaders help them throughout the season.

"Out of 145 kids, there are going to be around 12 kids that are out of step," Rabehl said. "They come back the next year and their mistakes have been improved. We are willing to accept that. It's a very accepting atmosphere. Everyone wishes that everybody was great, and it's all about self-discipline, because you have to be able to manage

"Rabehl is very strict, but inspirational," said Megan Pearson.

yourself. If kids are super in need of extra practice, the drum majors, section leaders, or the captains will give them tips and help them."

Unlike other high school marching band directors, Rabehl isn't a professional. He learns from his mistakes, makes improvements and makes changes in his own methods of teaching. There is no official rankings for the marching band season. However, Buffalo is considered to be one of the top 10 groups in the state. We have recently talked to an out of state Marching band located in Rogers, Arkansas to compare the differences of

the two bands nationally.

"Before any students are allowed to participate in marching band in Rogers, they have to have had 3 years of middle school band experience," said Rogers Band Director **Bill Rowen**.

Although there are no auditions, a major part of the commitment is participating in all required performances and rehearsals.

"Students who cannot follow through with their commitment to the RHS Band cannot remain a member of the band," said Rowen. "All students and their parents are required to sign a 'contract' each year that solidifies this commitment."

Rabehl has had positive impacts on his students. Junior **Megan Pearson**, joined in the summer going into 9th grade.

"Rabehl is very strict, but inspirational," said Pearson.

The reason Pearson joined is because she had friends doing it. She has continued doing it ever since.

The Herd has had many successful seasons. Their success is a big part due to Rabehl. In his experience of 9 years for The Herd, he has had a positive impact on the band. They have been all over the country to places such as Washington D.C. and Boulder, CO. Rabehl is confident that their success will carry into the future.



When Rabehl isn't directing the Herd during the summer, he teaches band at BHS

Photos by Kyle Seppala

Mission to Serve

Mission trips provide students with an opportunity take impact others for greater good

Staff Writer Megan Shipley



OneWay Youth Ministries took a trip to Duluth to clean up debris.

Photo by Jason Prigge

“We were stopped at an intersection on our way up north, and we thought it would be funny for everyone to run out of the car and swap places,” explained **Senior Dalton Bliss**, “It was one of the best moments of the day.”

Not only are mission trips filled with laughter and excitement, but they are also a great way to pay it forward. Bliss, along with Seniors Bryce Hane and James Remer, attended a trip to Duluth with OneWay Youth Ministries. Their mission? To help clean up the debris left by flooding.

“We weeded a rose garden, put down mulch in a park, and pulled garbage out of a creek,” said Bliss, “That creek was filled with debris! We ended up filling three shopping carts.”

But with hard work comes great relaxation and bonding time. “The best memory was on the last night during worship,” Bliss added, “We sang the last song and held hands. As one body, we sang to our Lord.”

Mission trips have a reputation for having religious affiliation, but that is not always true. **Senior Marissa Meyers** had the opportunity to travel internationally with an organization called “Rustic Pathways”. She spent three weeks in Udon Thani, Thailand to work with children.

“That creek was filled with debris! We ended up filling three shopping carts,” said **Senior Dalton Bliss**.

“On the trip we did a few different things,” explained Meyers, “We went to schools to interact with the kids and teach English as well as swimming. We also did a ‘Meals on Wheels’ project, worked in rice paddies, and built a house.”



Mission trips allow students to bond.

Photo by Jason Prigge



Photo by Marissa Meyers

“You get to see firsthand how you are helping the community”
-Senior Marissa Meyers



Photo by Marissa Meyers



Photo by Brooke Huikko

Top Left: The mountains rise in the distance over trees in Udonthani, Thailand. *Lower Left:* Senior Marissa Meyers volunteered in schools to teach English and swimming. They also did a Meals on Wheels Project. *Lower Right:* As one body, students hold hands and sing the last song during a mission trip to Duluth.

Meyers was hard at work during her trip, but she also had some time for fun. “We had a staff member that looked like Macklemore,” she said, “And a different staff member was dancing so much that she almost fell off the back of one of our trucks.”

Mission trips are life changing experiences for most who attend them. “The trip was a lot of fun,” concluded Meyers, “You get to see firsthand how you are helping the community.”

There are also ways to make an impact for the greater good without even leaving home. \$12,000 was raised in memory of Emma Rodelius and was sent to an organization called ASON (Assisting National Christian Leaders). Emma was working on a project to help out the residents of the Dominican Republic, and it is scheduled to be finished next year.

Anyone can make a difference in the world; from going on an international adventure to sparing some change. Not only can you change the lives of another person, but it may change yours as well.



Photo by Marissa Meyers
 Senior Marissa Meyers went to Thailand with Rustic Pathways, a travel-based service organization that is not affiliated with any religion.



Bison offensive line prepares to snap the ball.

Photo by Taylor McNitt

MISSION: HOMECOMING

Bison prepare for a Homecoming duel with the Saints

Allie Swearingen
Staff Writer

Homecoming festivities begin next week. The culmination of the team spirit and Bison pride arrives with the annual football game against St. Francis on Friday. Varsity football players have spent weeks playing, practicing, and conditioning in preparation for what is sure to be one of the most anticipated games of the season.

Junior **Johnny Senger** is a running back on the team.

"I think our team's mission this season is to get better every day. If we do that, we will have a successful Homecoming," said Senger.

Senger's personal mission is to keep the guys pumped and ready to work their tails off in practice to get better as a team.

Freshman **Taylor Thompson** doesn't have very high hopes for this year's game.

"We probably will lose, because we always lose."

Senior **Kaylee Lingen** has a more positive take on things.

"It's always going to be a close game. One game they lost against Monti and another they won against Big Lake. [...] The chances are fifty-fifty," she said.

The majority of students go to the Homecoming game. It's a major deal for each school. Although Buffalo doesn't

always win during homecoming week, people come for a good time.

"Fans go there to socialize, so their mission is to talk with their friends and take pictures of themselves," said Lingen.

Freshman **Becky Horak** feels that she now has more ownership that she's in the high school. When she was an eighth grader, she never went to the Homecoming football game.

"Now that you're in high school, you're like, 'This is my team'," said Horak.

After the game there is the "Fun night" at the high school in the cafeteria and in the PAC. Following the homecoming game on Friday, is the dance Saturday evening at 7 pm on October 12.



Adam Treptau (72) tackles a Big Lake player.

Photo by Taylor McNitt

Sacrificing Everything to Become Something



Photo by Jessica Faust

Standout volleyball player Kylee Zumach is graduating early to pursue her dream

Calista Susa
Staff Writer

It all started when her parents met through playing volleyball. Her mom begged her in fourth grade to give it a try. Hating it, Senior **Kylee Zumach** took the next year off. Her mom wanted her to try again.

Surprisingly, she ended up liking it and was actually pretty good. That was when she decided to join a Junior Olympics team, which she is currently on called Northern Lights.

Zumach is graduating early this January to go play Division I Volleyball for Kansas State University.

The Kansas State coach said Zumach could play for the Wildcats as a freshman, so she wanted to get ready for the season and practice with the team this Spring.

"It's a sacrifice you've got to make," said Zumach. "The biggest thing I'm taking away from this is to savor every moment of high school and to realize how lucky you are. Live in the moment."

Earlier, Zumach was set on going to Wisconsin, but things changed. The reason she picked Kansas over Wisconsin

is because Wisconsin had a change in their coaching staff. The new coach and her didn't see eye to eye. So then she looked through old college emails. Upon looking through the emails, she saw the one from Kansas. Falling in love with it, she then asked them to reconsider their full ride scholarship offer. They responded with a yes.

Her family and friends have mixed emotions about this all. Some are happy; others not so much.

"My mom is not excited to let me go, but my dad is. He's excited for me," said Zumach.

Her teammates are sad that she has to leave early, but glad to get the chance of playing the entire high school season with her. On the other hand, her Junior Olympics teammates won't get to play with her before she heads off early.

As for college, she is thinking about pursuing a four year major in either Marketing or Communication. She is excited, but aware that it's going to be a lot of work balancing volleyball with school. Zumach will miss her Senior Prom, but she said she will miss all of her friends most.



Photo by John Velencheko

From Start...

Freshman Erica May discusses her goals for the upcoming school year.

Erin McIndoo - Staff Writer

Erin McIndoo
Staff Writer

Walking into your first day of the High School you can be anyone you want to be. Whether you continue relationships with old friends or enter a completely new social circle, Freshman year is the beginning of a new chapter in your life.

Many freshmen make goals for themselves for the first day, first week, first month, or for their whole year. If you're new to high school, making goals for yourself can help you in the long run. Starting your high school career off right can help you to succeed. Freshman **Erica May** is one of many students new to Buffalo High School. This year, she hopes to get good grades and make a wide variety of

friends.

It is easiest to make new friends when you put yourself out there and begin to try new things. You could join clubs such as Students Stepping Up, International Club, Mock Trial, the fall musical, and Hoofprint are some of the many activities offered at Buffalo High School. Another way to become involved is to try out for a sport throughout the school year.

When you make a goal for yourself, oftentimes you need a plan to accomplish it. May says, "I'm

working harder in [my] classes by doing my homework and paying attention during class." Arts Magnet Advisor **Sherri Tante** says "Erica is a very creative person who has a sense of humor. Shes very quiet but [it] seems like she has a lot of good ideas."

"Erica is a very creative person who has a sense of humor. Shes very quiet but [it] seems like she has a lot of good ideas."

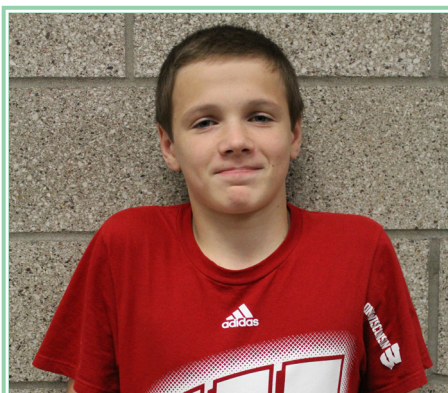
-Arts Magnet Adviser Sherri Tante



Photo by Natalie Brady

Photo Poll: My Mission Is...

Photos by Molly McMullen



"...to go to high school State for wrestling."
Freshman Charlie DeMarais



"... to pass the Math MCA this year."
Junior Paige Hasledalen

... To Finish

Senior Colin Olmscheid shares hopes for his last year of high school.



Photo by Natalie Brady

Erica Hoops
Opinions Editor

Senior year, while seen by many underclassmen as a chance for fun and games, is both fun and extremely stressful. A student's senior year will be full of decisions to make and applications to write — it's a long road, but one that many seniors have to take.

One person embarking on the journey to find a college is Senior **Collin Olmscheid**.

"Right now I'm looking at schools like Concordia Moorhead, and Hamline, and St. Johns, I've talked to Mankato too — those are just a few," said Olmscheid, "I've been talking to some of the basketball coaches a little bit and I have some tours this fall to get a better feel for it."

Olmscheid, a member of the Varsity basketball team, hopes to go on to play for whatever college he ends up going to. According to Varsity Basketball Coach **Nick Guida**, that goal is very much in his reach.

"Collin is super talented, but he's just beginning to scratch the surface of what he can become," said Guida. "That's the fun thing about high school kids, you kind

of help them navigate this path over these years. With Collin especially, it'll be fun watching him play this year, knowing he's got the tools and the talent to take that to the next level."

Olmscheid, while heavily involved in basketball, maintains a high GPA landing in the top 20 percent. Obviously his skills on the court are not his only asset.

"[Collin] is an excellent student," said English teacher **Tracy Hagstrom-Durant**, "but one of the things that makes him extra-special is that [while] he is known for being an athlete and comes from a very athletic family, he is also very open-minded to all of the other activities that are happening in school and still cares about academics as well."

Teachers and coaches alike seem to think Collin will go on to be very successful both on the court, in the classroom, and as a person.

"He is very [well-rounded]," said Guida, "in the classroom, as a person — he's got a natural warmth that kind of draws people into him, he's got a light-hearted sense of humor, and he's humble — I don't think he realizes how talented he is."



"... to get my GPA back up from last year."
Junior Brooke Laho



".. to graduate."
Senior Auston Alvarez



"... to make varsity baseball. I'm pretty confident I will be able to."
Sophomore Sam Therrien



Too hot?

Is **Tinder** the next step in online matchmaking or is it crossing the line?

Lauren Holt, Kylee Nyholm, and Meghan Cahill
Staff Writers

Imagine an app that allows a user to “like” or “pass” a person based on their looks. This app exists and is called Tinder. Tinder is a social media app that connects to your Facebook. Users pick a certain radius around their location and the app uses the information from your Facebook to match you up with people in the same area. You can search through the people’s photos and “like” them. If both users like each other then they can start a chat with them.

“I don’t know [if I would use it],” said Seophomore **Julia Adams**. “It’s pretty creepy. If I knew more about it I might use it, but probably not.”

Tinder isn’t just targeted around teenagers. According to Elite Interviews, Co-Founder of Tinder Justin Mateen originally made the app for college students. Finding relationships online is becoming one of the most viable options for relationship seekers. It’s different from other dating sites because it’s a phone app and it’s really easy to find people.

“We find out who likes you and enable you to chat with that person if there is mutual expressed interest,” said Matten. “Knowing that you’re both into each other breaks the ice and starts a conversation at a much deeper level.”

Will Tinder become as popular as Facebook and Twitter, or is it just another fad? Many students disagree when it comes to this question. For Freshman **Jared Lunning**, Tinder isn’t going to be around for long.

“It probably won’t be around for long because Facebook and Twitter have been around forever,” said Lunning. “I don’t think anyone should have one because it sounds trashy.”

According to Freshman **Tori Zinser** on the other hand, Tinder will become another popular social networking trend.

“I think it will last a long time because it’s a way to talk to people and meet new people,” said Zinser. “I probably won’t get the app, though, because I’m not really into that kind stuff.”



Senior Heather May and Exchange Student Yuka Nakazaki pose for a picture during passing time. Making friends can be a fun and new experience.



Freshman Emily Twardy and Exchange student Carlotta Doerfler stop for a quick picture during a class activity.



Sitting at a computer in McCallum's fourth block class, Exchange Student Cristina Aliu works on her yearbook story.

A Whole New World

Foreign Exchange Students adjust to new foods, customs, and people

Autumn Miller
Staff Writer

Buffalo High School has nine exchange students this year. The students' home countries range from Spain to France, from Germany to Norway and from Japan to Thailand.

Senior **Leonie Dre**, Senior **Henriette Kjos-Hanssen**, and Senior **Cristina Aliu** are three of the exchange students we have this year. Dre is from Germany, Kjos-Hanssen is from Norway, and Aliu is from Spain. All three girls agree that life in America is much different than it is back home.

"We do not have football, Homecoming, Prom, or school yearbooks in Spain. It's

different and I wish we had that in Spain," Aliu said.

Dre and Kjos-Hanssen agree that people in America are a lot nicer.

"People in America are so much nicer and polite than they are back home," said Kjos-Hanssen.

"People here eat so much fast food. Back in Spain, I only eat fast food three to five times a year."

Although Aliu is enjoying her time in America, she misses the Spanish food the most.

"People here eat so much fast food. Back in Spain, I only eat fast food three to five times a year."

"Something I really miss is brown bread," Kjos-Hanssen said, "It's sweet but it's not just sweet. It's really good."

Dre also misses the brown bread from home. However, both girls agree that there are certain American foods that they will miss once they go back home. These foods include bacon, biscuits, corn dogs, cupcakes, and DQ ice cream cake.

"I've tried a lot of new things that I haven't tried before. I've also met a lot of new friends," said Dre. "I hope to accomplish many things while in America. Most of all though I want to improve my English and try to not be so shy."

OUTSTANDING

Freshmen

Making an impact on the stage, in the pool, and in the classroom



Katie Swartzter

"I was in second grade at St. Francis, my friend said she was going to be doing the up and coming play," said Freshman Katie Swartzter. "She was saying that I should do it too."

That first play was seven years ago. Since then Swartzter has been in about twenty three plays total.

"When I was little it was a way to release all of my energy. I like that you get to tell a story that is different every single time," said Swartzter.

Katie would like to grow as an actress this year. Getting better as a performer is one of her missions as well.

"I hope to learn from others, especially the older kids," said Swartzter. "Establishing myself as a performer would be great."

Swartzter has a chorus role in the upcoming Fall Musical, *The Phantom of the Opera*.



Hunter Brings

Competing in the State Meet in swimming is extremely rare for middle school athletes. Freshman **Hunter Brings** realized that goal as an eighth grader.

"I had talked about it at the beginning of the season," said Brings. "I thought I could do it."

During the end of February at Sections, Hunter placed fourth. He almost failed a dive during the meet, which would have not have let him qualify.

At State he did not make it to the second day. As an eighth grader he finished his season with 20th place at state.

This year Brings has high hopes for the upcoming season.

"For diving I want to make top sixteen at State at the least," said Brings.



Photos by Molly McMullen

Kayla Owens

When freshmen come into high school, Algebra or Geometry is usually their first math course. Not for Freshman **Kayla Owens**.

In math class, Owens is surrounded by upper classmen. She said that being the youngest in her Calculus class can be a bit intimidating.

"It is difficult but I get through it," said Owens. "I'm kind of struggling right now, but I'm doing okay."

She has been in the Quest program since the start of middle school, completing advanced or accelerated courses in English, Social Studies, math, and science.

"As a fourth grader I skipped two years of math and I've been ahead ever since," said Owens.

Taylor Susa
Managing Editor